

SENATE RESOLUTION 136
By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to commend Adam Hanover for his honorable
and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those young men and women who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy young person is Adam Hanover, who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a student at Ridgeway High School, Adam has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 14, Adam embarked upon an ambitious plan to register Memphis high schools seniors to vote; and

WHEREAS, with the help of teacher Ann Baumgartner, Adam created the Vote Now program, and through their efforts, just less than half of the senior class at Ridgeway High School was registered to vote last year; and

WHEREAS, as a recent addition to Vote Now, Adam has enlisted the help of a friend and expanded the program to include White Station High School; he aspires to incorporate the program into schools throughout Memphis; and

WHEREAS, although Adam is still two years away from being able to register to vote himself, he firmly believes in the political process and is unable to recall a time when he has not been highly interested in politics; and

WHEREAS, commenting that "Everyone used to call me Mr. President when I was younger," Adam has been very active in several political campaigns; he has campaigned for Shelby County Mayor A.C. Wharton, United States Senator Bill Frist, Tennessee Congressional candidate David Kustoff, and at age 12, he was one of the youngest volunteers for the Bush-Cheney campaign; and

WHEREAS, while working on Mr. Kustoff's campaign, Adam noticed that according to the most recent census, only 39.2 percent of 18 to 24 year olds were registered to vote; although the Shelby County Election Commission sends representatives to high schools each year, he believed that a better process could be formulated and was inspired to create the Vote Now program; and

WHEREAS, Adam and Ms. Baumgartner secured voter registration applications which were distributed to the students by homeroom teachers, resulting in 112 Ridgeway students registering to vote in 2003, compared with only 7 registering in 2002; and

WHEREAS, displaying the utmost professionalism throughout the implementation and operation of the Vote Now program, Adam has earned the respect of his fellow students and teachers alike; and

WHEREAS, his father, Marc Hanover, has noted that Adam is "very, very interested in trying to make a difference in this world" and that "he has been writing letters to the President since he learned how to write," as well as staying informed about Congressional actions; and

WHEREAS, his noteworthy achievements and worthy public service are a source of pride to his parents, school, and community; and

WHEREAS, Adam's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, his laudable accomplishments and sense of community spirit surely bode well for Adam's future success; and

WHEREAS, Adam Hanover is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend Adam Hanover for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee through his stalwart efforts to register students to vote in Shelby County and we extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.